

CHAPTER NO. 696

SENATE BILL NO. 3258

By Dixon, Harper

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3368

**By John DeBerry, Marrero, Larry Turner, West, Todd, Kent, Brenda Turner,
Coleman, Baird, Pleasant**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49 and Title 71, relative to transportation of children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-502(d)(7)(C), is amended by adding the following as a new item (iii):

(iii) The department shall also promulgate rules providing that, on and after May 1, 2005, all vehicles used by or on behalf of a child care center to provide transportation of children, that are designed to transport six (6) or more passengers, shall be equipped with a child safety monitoring device which shall prompt staff to inspect the vehicle for children before an alarm sounds. In order to facilitate the affordability of such devices for centers, the department is authorized to establish a grant program to subsidize a portion or all of the cost of such devices for centers; provided, however, the department may only use private donations that it receives for such purpose to fund the grants. Only devices approved by the department are authorized for use on such a vehicle.

The provisions of this item shall not apply:

(a) When all children in a vehicle are five (5) years of age and in kindergarten, or older than five (5) years of age, except that if any one (1) of such children is developmentally or physically disabled or non-ambulatory then the provisions of this item shall apply; or

(b) To vehicles used exclusively for the provision of occasional field trips.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 10, 2004



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 18th day of May 2004



PHIL BREDEBEN, GOVERNOR